

CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

VOL. 56

APRIL, 1942

NO. 4

California and Western Medicine

Owned and Published by the
CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
Four Fifty Sutter, Room 2004, San Francisco,
Phone DOuglas 0062

Address editorial communications to Dr. George H. Kress as
per address above. Address business and advertising commu-
nications to John Hunton.

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Committee on Publications

Francis E. Toomey San Diego 1942
G. W. Walker Fresno 1943
A. A. Alexander, Chairman Oakland 1944
Secretary-Editor, ex officio

Editorial Board
Roster of Editorial Board appears in this issue at beginning of
California Medical Association department. (For page
number see index below.)

Advertisements.—The Journal is published on the seventh of
the month. Advertising copy must be received not later than the
fifteenth of the month preceding issue. Advertising rates will
be sent on request.

BUSINESS MANAGER JOHN HUNTON
Advertising Representative for Northern California
L. J. FLYNN, 544 Market Street, San Francisco (DOuglas 0577)

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Subscription prices, \$5 (\$6 for foreign countries); single
copies, 50 cents.

Volumes begin with the first of January and the first of July.
Subscriptions may commence at any time.

Change of Address.—Request for change of address should give
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for publication on condition that they are contributed solely to
this Journal. New copy must be sent to the editorial office not
later than the fifteenth day of the month preceding the date of
publication.

Contributions—Length of Articles: Extra Costs.—Original
articles should not exceed three and one-half pages in length.
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by the Council are also extra.

Leaflet Regarding Rules of Publication.—CALIFORNIA AND
WESTERN MEDICINE has prepared a leaflet explaining its rules re-
garding publication. This leaflet gives suggestions on the prepa-
ration of manuscripts and of illustrations. It is suggested that
contributors to this Journal write to its office requesting a copy
of this leaflet.

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EDITORIALS†

A "BASIC SUBJECTS" LAW PROPOSED BY CALIFORNIA CHIROPRACTORS—SOME MOST ASTONISHING LETTERS!!

Basic Science Law Long Under Consideration.—For more than ten years, since 1927, in
fact, the California Medical Association—through
duly constituted committees—has made careful
and continued studies concerning Basic Science
laws, which in various states were enacted to
promote the maintenance of adequate educational
knowledge and standards among all practitioners
of the healing art.

* * *

Title of the Basic Science Initiative.—As a
result of these endeavors, a final draft of a Basic
Science Act was gotten into form some months
ago, and submitted to the Attorney General of
California, who gave to the proposed initiative
the following title:

**BASIC SCIENCE ACT. Initiative. Creates Board
of Examiners in basic sciences (naming five
sciences) comprising five members with pre-
scribed qualifications appointed by Governor.
Requires persons obtain basic science certificate
from said Board after written examination be-
fore applying to Medical, Dental, Osteopathic
or Chiropractic Boards, or other governmental
authority, for license to practice healing art
(defining same) or any phase thereof. Exempts
various professions, present licensees and persons
treating sick by prayer in practice of any well-
recognized religion. Prescribes examination fees,
penalties for violations and disposition of fines,
requiring proceeds therefrom used for adminis-
tering Act. Declares existing statutes not repealed.**

* * *

**References to Reports on Basic Science
Law.**—Editorial statements on committee re-
ports concerning the proposed initiative were
made on page 167 in the October, 1941 issue of
CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, and read-
ers who wish to revive their knowledge of the
proposition are referred to those comments. A
list of references to many other Basic Science
articles appearing in the OFFICIAL JOURNAL was
given in the issue of August, 1941, on page 104.

† Editorials on subjects of scientific and editorial inter-
est, contributed by members of the California Medical
Association, are printed in the Editorial Comment column
which follows.

(COPY OF LETTER No. 1.)

ATTORNEY GENERAL EARL WARREN, COUNSEL

BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

W. FRANKLIN MORRIS, D. C.
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
404 FORUM BUILDING
SACRAMENTO

DOCTOR:

Your State Board is hereby requesting you to attend an authorized meeting of all San Francisco and San Mateo County Chiropractors to be held:

Sunday, March 15, 1942, 2 P. M.

NATIVE SONS HALL, 414 Mason Street, San Francisco.

The purpose of this meeting is:

1. To advise you of the vicious character of political medicine's "Basic Science Measure" which will confront us at the November election.
2. To instruct you further as to what you can do to defend yourself and your profession.

A complete list of every Chiropractor in this area will be in the hands of the Board Chairman, and a listing made of all absentees.

Regardless of your present plans, the importance of this meeting demands that you **BE THERE.**

Chiropractically yours,
W. FRANKLIN MORRIS, D. C.
Secretary State Board

(COPY OF LETTER No. 2.)

The Committee of Northern California Co-ordinating Council

San Francisco and San Mateo County Sub-Committee

715 ST. PAUL BLDG., 291 GEARY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

March 26, 1942

DEAR DOCTOR:

There will be a Vicious Medical Basic Science Bill on the Ballot in November. As far as we know it will pass, we cannot stop it. But we can and will present and pass our own measure to protect our science.

Our State Board of Examiners have formed a Co-ordinating Council, who has drawn up a bill which is at the Attorney-General's Office now for Titling. The petitions will be on the street April first.

When the bill is passed in November, it will increase the rights, privileges and practice of every licentiate in the State. (By this we mean: YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO PRACTICE IN ALL PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, TREATING THE SICK, ALSO UNDER WORKINGMAN'S COMPENSATION AND UNDER SOCIALIZED MEDICINE).

It is going to cost a lot of money to carry this program through to a successful conclusion, but it is worth it. The State Board has stepped into the picture again by putting some very efficient teeth into the administration of their office by assessing every licentiate in the State, practicing or not, one hundred dollars. The Board contends that every Chiropractor's license is worth many times that to him. If it isn't, then they will take the necessary legal steps to relieve him of his license. This a finish fight, and a few doctors or a few dollars can't win it. When it is won those doctors participating are the ones entitled to benefit by it.

To make this easy for everybody, the State has been divided into small sections, a lieutenant to every five doctors in the entire State. Said lieutenant will call every week on his group to collect each individual's pro rated share. To make it still easier for the individual, this is the way the hundred dollar assessment has been broken down: ten dollars first payment (as ready cash is needed before April first, to get the program under way), then three dollars weekly until the balance has been paid, or the entire amount can be paid at one time.

Your lieutenant will call on you within the next few days, so be prepared to pay your assessment.

There will be a strict accounting and a financial report made regularly. All officers handling moneys are under bond.

Yours for success,

THE COMMITTEE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL

Early Opposition of Chiropractors.—While the proposed Basic Science Initiative sponsored by the California Medical Association was under consideration, one of the topics discussed in committee was the probable reaction thereto by the groups of sectarian practitioners, already licensed in California. That was the reason why one of the C. M. A. committees, at a legislative session some years ago, submitted to the California Legislature an act for a Basic Science Law, in order to find out from what directions opposition against such a measure might be expected. In that legislative session, such amendments as were made to the proposed law came almost entirely from chiropractic sources. This fact is of passing interest in view of events that have recently transpired and concerning which special attention of C.M.A. members is now called.

* * *

Remarkable Letter No. 1 on State Chiropractic Board Stationery.—The first communication, calling attention to a meeting in San Francisco, scheduled to be held on March 15th, was an undated letter on the official letterhead of their Board of Examiners of the State of California (!), and was signed by the Secretary of that Board (!!), with an emphasis, in black face type, that the recipient must BE THERE!!!

Readers of this JOURNAL can form their own conclusions concerning the other statements made in that communication, (reproduction of a photostatic copy is printed with these comments)—which should be of interest also to the "California Department of Professional and Vocational Standards", the Attorney General of California, and other State Executives, their attention being respectfully called thereto.

* * *

Chiropractic Letter No. 2, Equally Remarkable.—The second letter, dated March 26, 1942, is little less interesting than the epistle already referred to. This later communication is on the letterhead of a "Coördinating Council" and mentions a proposed initiative to be sponsored by the chiropractic group. In perusal of this document, note the capitalization of the promises that are made: "YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO PRACTICE IN ALL PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS TREATING THE SICK. . ."

Also notice the statement,* "The State [chiropractic] Board has stepped into the picture again by putting some very efficient teeth into the administration of their office [!] by assessing [!] every [chiropractic] licentiate in the State, practicing or not [!!], one hundred dollars". [!!!] The Board contends that every chiropractor's license is worth many times that to him. If it isn't, then they will take the necessary legal steps to relieve him [the chiropractor] of his license." [!!!]

* Bracket inclusions are inserted by the Editor.

Truly, the statements in these remarkable communications may be said almost "to pass all human understanding."

* * *

Why the Two Letters are Reproduced.—As a matter of record, and for the information of members of the California Medical Association and other citizens who should be interested:

(a) In maintenance of adequate educational standards for all groups of healing art practitioners (to whom the health and lives of citizens and public health responsibilities are directly given by law); and

(b) In maintenance of proper standards, by constituted State agencies (i.e., avoidance of non-coercive or other improper methods by a Board appointed by the Governor of the State);—there appear on adjacent pages, reproductions of photostatic copies of the two letters under discussion and containing implications that are little less than astounding (if so mild a term may be permitted)!

* * *

Chiropractic Initiative Will Have the Confusing Title, "Basic Subjects Act."—Let us turn now and check on the title of the proposed bill (an initiative measure), referred to in the second letter as having been presented to the "Attorney General's Office now for titling". For the information of C. and W. M. readers, there is reprinted below a letter dated April 1, 1942, in which information is given concerning the confusing title the proposed chiropractic initiative will have on the November ballot, if adequate signatures are secured:

(COPY)

San Francisco, April 1, 1942

Hugh J. McKevitt, Esq.
Attorney at Law
1620 Russ Building
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

There has heretofore been submitted to this office by Newell J. Hooey, Esq. of your office, upon behalf of the proponent thereof, Mr. M. A. Bowcher, 1097 Keith Avenue, Berkeley, draft of proposed initiative measure designated "Basic Subjects and Rights Act". Such draft was accompanied by a request that we prepare a circulation title and summary covering the measure.

Pursuant to said request, and in accordance with law, the following circulation title and summary has been prepared:

BASIC SUBJECTS ACT. Initiative. Declares basic subjects include physics, chemistry, zoology; enumerates acts constituting practice of healing art; requires applicants for licenses from Medical, Osteopathic or Chiropractic Boards first obtain basic subjects certificate after examination as therein provided. Exempts present licensees, permitting their certification without examination. Authorizes certificates to applicants passing examinations in other states having equal stand-

ards with California. Permits licensees hereunder to practice in tax supported or tax exempt hospitals; those entitled to treatment therein or under governmental health system, employers and employees under Labor Code, and persons requiring premarital examination, to choose any system such licensees practice.

Will you kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter, advising whether the foregoing circulation title and summary meets with the approval of Mr. Bowcher.

Very truly yours,

EARL WARREN, *Attorney General*

RWH:YC

By Robert W. Harrison
Chief Assistant

* * *

Conclusions to be Drawn.—Little more need be said at this time. It is evident from what has been stated that the following conclusions may be drawn:

(1) That the chiropractic group has drafted an initiative that will have the very confusing title "Basic Subjects Act", when it appears on this year's State election ballot in November (in case the necessary 212,117 valid signatures are secured by their solicitors); and

(2) That the chiropractic group has taken steps to secure from each of the more than 3,000 chiropractic licentiates of California, the sum of one hundred dollars, or a total collection of more than \$300,000 for use in carrying on their initiative campaign!

Members of the California Medical Association are urged to consider the significance of what is here involved.

It needs no special imagination to appreciate, in war-times such as the present, that the psychologic reaction of many voters will be so stirred concerning other matters that they will have little patience to consider carefully the issues involved in healing art or public health laws.

* * *

The Task Ahead.—Organized medicine, on behalf of non-sectarian practice and really desirous to promote the best interests of the public health, and with the sponsorship of the California Medical Association years ago embarked upon a campaign to give to the people of the State, a protective measure that experience elsewhere has shown to be a real conservator of human health and life. With an objective so beneficent, there must be no hesitancy concerning our course of action, even in times such as these. The gage of battle has been thrown down to Organized Medicine, and by it the gage is accepted.

The educational campaign, to acquaint the electorate concerning the true elements at stake, will go forward with increased vigor. Complacency now has no place in the picture. Let all who can read, ponder on the significance of what has been planned by those who oppose the passage of the

Basic Science Law that has been sponsored by the California Medical Association. After which, let each and all take the proper steps to support the measure, in every legitimate manner, in order to secure for the people of California the enactment of this much-needed legislation,—a Basic Science Law making it mandatory that all practitioners of the healing art shall possess a proper amount of fundamental education.

ANNUAL SESSION, SUNDAY, MAY 3- WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Program Committees Obligated to Change Their Plans.—The C.M.A. Committee on Scientific Work and the Section Officers were obliged to change the plans for this year's annual session when the war tocsin,—due to Pearl Harbor events,—sounded for Americans on December 7th last. Prior to that day, the officers having the responsibility of developing the scientific programs for the year 1942 were proceeding along those paths which experience at former sessions had demonstrated would make for most interest to C.M.A. members in attendance.

Over-night, however, it was necessary to reconsider all that had been planned; and outline anew, in quite different arrangement of days, general and section meetings, the scientific topics to be stressed.

* * *

War Medicine Will be the Dominating Note.—Naturally, topics dealing with war medicine and surgery, as applicable for both the battle lines and civilian areas, were promptly considered, and decision made in favor of their presentation. Because of their importance, it was felt that these subjects would have greater appeal to attending members when given in general, instead of smaller section and specialized meetings. To that end, in addition to three general meetings, one each on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings, the afternoon of Tuesday was also set aside for a military symposium. Because of demands on physicians' time in their home communities, it was agreed that no meetings would be held this year on Thursday. However, to all intents, the 1942 session will be a four-day session, since the many affiliated activities and organizations of the State Association, and also the technical exhibits will be in full operation on Sunday, as an inspection of the programs will show.

In spite of evident handicaps, it is stimulating to observe the seventy-first annual session gives every promise of becoming as busy in performance as its predecessors of less turbulent years. Certainly, the accommodations for meetings will be much superior, and the accessory activities of scientific exhibits and films will be better placed; while, for the first time in recent sessions at Del Monte, more ample lounge and lobby space in